

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 03434 01 OF 02 272314 Z

63

ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

USIA-12 IO-12 CU-04 AID-20 SIL-01 LAB-06 EB-11 COME-00

OMB-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /134 W
----- 053822

R 271818 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7202

INFO USCINCSO

AMCONSUL CALI UNN

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN UNN

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 2 BOGOTA 3434

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CO

SUBJECT YOUTH PARA

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

STATE 070302

THIS MESSAGE CONSTITUTES OUR RESPONSE TO THE DEPARTMENTS
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE COLOMBIAN YOUTH PROGRAM.

I. YOUTH CATEGORIES

A. CATEGORIES AND PERCENTAGES.

YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS 25 PERCENT

YOUNG MILITARY OFFICERS 5 PERCENT

YOUNG BUREAUCRATS 25 PERCENT

MEDIA 12 PERCENT

CHURCH 5 PERCENT

LAW 2 PERCENT

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY 15 PERCENT

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 03434 01 OF 02 272314 Z

EDUCATION 3 PERCENT

ARTS AND LETTERS 1 PERCENT

YOUNG LABOR LEADERS 3 PERCENT

SELECTED UNIVERSITIES AND FACILITIES 4 PERCENT (ESCUELA DE ADMINISTRACION Y FINANZAS E INSTITUTO TECHNOLOGICO, MEDELLIN AND THE ESCUELA SUPERIOR DE ADMINISTRACION PUBLICA, BOGOTA).

B. IN COLOMBIA THE POLITICAL PARTY SYSTEM IS HIGHLY DEVELOPED, POWERFUL AND PERVERSES ALMOST ALL ACTIVITIES IN THE SOCIETY. THE TWO TRADITIONAL POLITICAL PARTIES PROVIDE (FREQUENTLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER CAREERS SUCH AS COMMUNICATIONS OR BUSINESS) THE PRINCIPAL ROUTE TO POLITICAL POWER. IN ADDITION, BECAUSE OF THE PARITY SYSTEM BY WHICH NON- CIVIL SERVICE GOVERNMENT JOBS ARE EVENLY DISTRIBUTED BETWEEN THE TRADITIONAL PARTIES, PARTY IDENTIFICATION IS ALMOST UNIVERSAL IN THE GOVERNMENT BUREAUCACY AND THE LINE BETWEEN POLITICAL PARTY ACTIVITY AND GOVERNMENT SERVICE IS CONSEQUENTLY ILL- DEFINED. THERE ARE FEW INDEPENDENTS IN THE COLOMBIAN BUREAUCRACY. WHILE BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY AND THE MEDIA ALSO PROVIDE AVENUES TO POLITICAL POWER, HERE TOO INFLUENCE USUALLY RESULTS FROM A COMBINATION OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY (OR AT LEAST CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH EITHER THE LIBERAL OR CONSERVATIVE PARTY) AND BUSINESS ENTERPRISE. GROUPS WHICH IN OTHER COUNTRIES MIGHT RECEIVE CONSIDERABLY MORE WEIGHT SUCH AS EDUCATORS, UNIVERSITY LEADERS, SECONDARY SCHOOL LEADERS ARE ALMOST WITHOUT INFLUENCE IN COLOMBIA EXCEPT AS THEY INTERACT WITH THE PARTY SYSTEM.

C. NONE OF THE YOUTH GROUPS OR INSTITUTIONS NOR ANY OF THE CATEGORIES IN THE LIST ABOVE ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE ANY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON U. S. INTERESTS IN THE NEXT TWO TO FOUR YEARS.

COLOMBIAN YOUTH GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS ARE CHARACTERIZED BY LACK OF NATIONAL ORGANIZATION, LACK OF COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMS AND EXTREME FRAGMENTATION. IT IS THEREFORE VERY DOUBTFUL THAT ANY OF THESE GROUPS WILL IN THE NEXT TWO TO FOUR YEARS EMERGE FROM THEIR

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BOGOTA 03434 01 OF 02 272314 Z

TRADITIONAL IMPOTENCE.

WHILE THE COLOMBIAN UNIVERSITY SCENE WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE TO BE AGITATED, THE STUDENT MOVEMENT IS ALSO FRAGMENTED AND DISORGANIZED AND LITTLE IMPACT ON U. S. INTERESTS IS LIKELY.

II. OBJECTIVES

A. CATEGORIES AND PERCENTAGES

ASSURE ACCESS TO KEY FUTURE LEADERSHIP 15 PERCENT.
DEVELOP INFLUENTIAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH LEADERS OF
POLITICALLY AWARE YOUTH AND WITH POTENTIAL FUTURE
LEADERS 20 PERCENT.

CREATE AND MAINTAIN FAVORABLE ATTITUDES TOWARD US 10 PERCENT,
PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING OF BROAD US GOALS AND POLICIES 10
PERCENT INFLUENCE ATTITUDES ON SPECIFIC US INTERESTS IN THAT
COUNTRY OR REGION 10 PERCENT.

FOSTER CLIMATE CONDUCIVE TO BILATERAL TRADE AND US INVESTMENTS
IN FUTURE YEARS 10 PERCENT

FOSTER A CLIMATE CONDUCIVE TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
10 PERCENT.

ENCOURAGE COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES IN DEVELOPMENT
AND REFORM 5 PERCENT.

ENCOURAGE PRAGMATIC, NON- IDEOLOGICAL APPROACHES TO
NATIONAL PROBLEMS 5 PERCENT.

THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH CONTACTS, UNDERSTAND AND
FOLLOW INCIPIENT PLLITICAL AND SOCIAL TRENDS IN THE
SOCIETY 5 PERCENT.

B. THE MAJOR THRUSTS OF EMBASSY YOUTH

ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE TO ESTABLISH THE MOST INFLUENTIAL
RELATIONSHIPS POSSIBLE WITH POTENTIAL FUTURE LEADERS.
EFFORTS IN THIS DIRECTION WILL ALSO ASSURE ACCESS TO KEY
FUTURE LEADERS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME SERVING A
NUMBER OF THE OTHER OBJECTIVES LISTED ABOVE. MANY OF
THE OBJECTIVES LISTED SUCH AS " PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING
OF BROAD U. S. GOALS AND POLICIES", " INFLUENCE ATTITUDES
ON SPECIFIC U. S. INTERESTS IN THAT COUNTRY OR REGION"
AND " CREATE AND MAINTAIN FAVORABLE ATTITUDES TOWARD
THE U. S." ARE PRIMARY OBJECTIVES OF OVERA- ALL MISSION
ACTIVITIES. WHILE SOME FOCUS ON YOUTH, AS SUCH, SEEMS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 BOGOTA 03434 01 OF 02 272314 Z

WARRANTED, THESE OBJECTIVES CAN BE ACHIEVED AS ADJUNCTS
TO GENERAL DEVELOPMENT OF INFLUENTIAL RELATIONS WITH
POTENTIAL LEADERS.

THE LACK OF COHERENT ACTIVITIES BY FORCES
HOSTILE TO U. S. INTERESTS AS WELL AS THEIR MINIMAL
IMPACT IN COLOMBIA EXPLAIN THE EXCLUSION OF THIS
OBJECTIVE FROM MISSION YOUTH OBJECTIVES. THE LOW
PRIORITY ATTACHED TO " ENCOURAGING COMMITMENT TO

CONFIDENTIAL
NMAFVVZCZ

ADP000
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 03434 02 OF 02 272341 Z

63

ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

USIA-12 IO-12 CU-04 AID-20 SIL-01 LAB-06 EB-11 COME-00

OMB-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /134 W
----- 053999

R 271818 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7203
INFO USCINCSO
AMCONSUL CALI UNN
AMCONSUL MEDELLIN UNN

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 2 OF 2 BOGOTA 3434

DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES IN DEVELOPMENT AND REFORM", AND
" ENCOURAGING PRAGMATIC, NON- IDEOLOGICAL
APPROACHES TO NATIONAL PROBLEMS" AND " HELPING TO
STREGTHEN MODERATE, DEMOCRATIC GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS"
RESULT FROM THE MISSION' S ASSESSMENT OF COLOMBIAN
SENSITIVITY TO ACTIVITIES THAT SMACK OF INTERVENTION
IN DOMESTIC POLITICS. JUST AS IMPORTANT, THE FACT THAT
EXISTING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUIONS ARE WELL ENTRENCHED AND
VIABLE MAKES UNNECESSARY ANY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO
THESE THREE OBJECTIVES.

III. RESOURCES.

A. CATEGORIES AND PERCENTAGES
CU INTERNATIONAL VISITOR TRAVEL GRANTS 20 PERCENT
CU EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL GRANTS 5 PERCENT
CU FULL- YEAR ACADEMIC GRANTS TO FOREIGN STUDENTS 5 PERCENT
AMERICAN PROFESSORS (LECTURING) 5 PERCENT
CU SHORT- TERM AMERICAN GRANTEES (LECTURERS, ETC). 10 PCECENT
AID TRAINING PROGRAM 20 PERCENT
MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAMS 10 PERCENT
USIA CULTURAL AND INFORMATIONAL PROGRAMMING (OTHER THAN
CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 03434 02 OF 02 272341 Z

EXCHANGES) 15 PERCENT
BINATIONAL CENTERS 10 PERCENT
B. IMPROVEMENTS
THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR YOUTH- RELATED OBJECTIVES
ARE LIMITED BY THE FACT THAT THEY ARE ALSO THE ONLY
RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR INFLUENCING OTHER, HIGHER

PRIORITY GROUPS. THE YOUTH PROGRAM COULD BE MADE MORE EFFECTIVE BY EARMARKING SPECIAL FUNDS FOR THAT PURPOSE.

.. PRIVATE RESOURCES. THE MOST EFFECTIVE PRIVATE SECTOR RESOURCE FOR PURSUING YOUTH OBJECTIVES IS TRAINING IN THE U. S. BY AMERICAN COMPANIES WITH INVESTMENTS IN COLOMBIA. HOWEVER, THE COLOMBIAN TRAINEES USUALLY ARE ALREADY U. S. ORIENTED. LOCAL TRAINING BY U. S. COMPANIES WHILE SOMEWHAT LESS EFFECTIVE, ALSO ASSISTS THE U. S. TO ACHIEVE SOME OF THE YOUTH OBJECTIVES LISTED ABOVE. ANY LEGISLATION (IN THE FORM OF TAX BENEFITS, FOR INSTANCE) WHICH WOULD ENCOURAGE THIS KIND OF TRAINING WOULD BE HELPFUL. SOME U. S. CHURCH GROUPS ACTIVE IN COLOMBIA HAVE SUCCESSFUL YOUTH PROGRAMS WHICH COMPLIMENT MISSION OBJECTIVES.

D. PEACE CORPS: ALTHOUGH THE REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS (FROM 800 AT ONE TIME TO 150 AT THE PRESENT) HAS CONSIDERABLY REDUCED THE NUMBER AND RANGE OF CONTACTS WHICH PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS HAVE, THE CHANGING EMPHASIS OF PEACE CORPS PROGRAMS HAS THROWN PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS INTO MORE DIRECT CONTACT WITH UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS. PEACE CORPS PROGRAMS MAKE A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO MISSION YOUTH EFFORTS, PARTICULARLY IN ACHIEVING THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES: "CREATE AND MAINTAIN FAVORABLE ATTITUDES TOWARD THE U. S." "FOSTER A CLIMATE CONDUCIVE TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT", AND TO A LESSER EXTENT TO "PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING OF BROAD U. S. GOALS AND POLICIES". THE PEACE CORPS DOES NOT TARGET YOUTH AS SUCH AND PEACE CORPS IMPACT DEPENDS VERY MUCH UPON THE PERSONALITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEER.

IV. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF "YOUTH".

A. LOW.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BOGOTA 03434 02 OF 02 272341 Z

B. ONE OF THE PRIMARY IMPEDIMENTS TO THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE YOUTH PROGRAM IN COLOMBIA IS THE DIFFICULTY IN IDENTIFYING JUST WHO WILL RISE OUT OF THE PACK TO ASSUME POSITIONS OF REAL LEADERSHIP. MANY COLOMBIANS ACHIEVE POSITIONS OF SUBSTANTIAL LEADERSHIP (AS MINISTERS, GOVERNORS, OR CONGRESSMEN) IN THEIR EARLY THIRTIES, BUT REMAIN IN AN ILL DEFINED CATEGORY SOMEWHERE BETWEEN LEADERSHIP AND LIMBO FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS. WHILE THERE IS considerable MBILITY WITHIN THE POWER STRUCTURE, THE POSITIONS OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE REMAIN VERY MUCH IN THE HANDS OF MORE SENIOR FIGURES.

IN PURSUING ITS YOUTH PROGRAM, THE MISSION FEELS THAT THE MOST USEFUL CONTACTS ARE THOSE WITH YOUNG LEADERS

ALREADY IN POSITIONS THAT RENDER THEM USEFUL TO THE MISSION. WE TALK OFTEN ABOUT A COLOMBIAN OLIGARCHY. THE FACT IS THERE EXISTS AN ELITE, BUT IT IS NOT AN EXCLUSIVE GROUP; WHAT WE FIND, RATHER, IS A LOOSELY KNIT AND GROWING CADRE OF DECISION MAKERS THAT ABSROBS BRIGHT, AMBITIOUS YOUNG MEN AND GIVES THEM A STAKE IN THE SYSTEM. AS A RESULT, YOUNG LEADERS QUICKLY ADOPT THE ATTITUDES OF THEIR SENIORS-- THERE IS VIRTUALLY NO OTHER WAY TO GET AHEAD. THE NEW GENERATIONS BRING SOME OF THEIR YOUTHFUL IDEAS INTO THEIR PROFESSIONAL LIFE BUT THEY MUST BE CAUTIOUS LEST THEY LOSE FAVOR AND A CHANCE FOR IMPORTANT POSTS IN THE FUTURE. THE PACE OF CHANGE IS SLOW AND THE MEN WHO RAN THE NATIONA TWENTY- FIVE YEARS AGO ARE STILL IN CHARGE OR HAVE PASSED THE TORCH TO THEIR SONS AND PROTEGES.

C1. PERSONNEL TIME:

(A) 5 PERCENT 30 TOTAL MAN MONTHS PER YEAR.
(B) CONTACT WORK 70 PERCENT REPORTING 10 PERCENT, PROGRAM WORK 20 PERCENT. (C) STATE 15 PERCENT USIA 40 PERCENT AID 30 PERCENT DOD 5 PERCENT OTHER 10 PERCENT.

2. PROGRAM RESOURCES: 10 PERCENT OF CU BUDGET, 20 PERCENT OF USIA BUDGET, 10 PERCENT OF AID BUDGET 0 PERCENT OF MAP BUDGET. (NO ATTEMPT IS MADE TO TELL THE GOC HOW TO USE THE

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 BOGOTA 03434 02 OF 02 272341 Z

MAP TRAINING FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE TO IT. THIS IS A DECISION WHICH IS LEFT COMPLETELY UP TO THE GOC.
SACCIO

CONFIDENTIAL
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BOGOTA03434
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730455/aaaaizuj.tel
Line Count: 312
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Jan-2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <08 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980205
Subject: YOUTH PARA
TAGS: PFOR, CO, n/a
To: CALI
MEDELLIN
SECSTATE WASHDC
SS
USCINCSO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

